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so far as it can be by documentary evidence. Mrs. Ferris's letters are off-hand sketches, drawn from the life, as graceful as their subjects will suffer them to be, and often rising into the eloquence of a modest matron's burning indignation at the wrongs, outrages, and woes inflicted, less by superstition than by foul hypocrisy, upon her own sex.

11.—1. *Poems*. By CHARLES KINGSLEY. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1856. 16mo. pp. 284.

2. *The Heroes: or, Greek Fairy Tales for my Children*. By CHARLES KINGSLEY. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1856. 24mo. pp. 320.

THE chief of these poems is "The Saint's Tragedy," founded on the piety, sacrifices, and sufferings of St. Elizabeth of Thuringia, and running, for the most part, closely parallel with the monkish chronicles of which she is the heroine. It abounds in passages of striking beauty, and, while there is but little room for the invention of character or incident, great skill and pure taste are manifested in the translation of narrow Romish sentiment into the language of universal Christian consciousness.

The mythological tales, written, as the author says, for his own children, are told in an easy and attractive style, denuded of whatever might be of a corrupting or doubtful tendency, and so adapted to the easy comprehension of young persons, that they might render the leading names and incidents of Grecian fable familiar, at as early an age as a child is likely to encounter the names, or to see or hear allusions made to the incidents.

12.—*The West Church and its Ministers. Fiftieth Anniversary of the Ordination of Charles Lowell, D. D.* Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co. 1856. 12mo. pp. 242.

ON the 1st of January, 1806, Rev. Charles Lowell was ordained pastor (fourth of the series) of the West Church in Boston. It would be hard to say, (and in this community there is no need of saying,) how impressive he was in discourse, how fervent in the public offices of devotion, how incessant in pastoral service, how weighty in counsel, how tender in the ministries of consolation, how near to the hearts of his entire congregation, till infirmity compelled him to withdraw from active duty; and what sentiments of profoundest reverence and love followed him to his retirement, and have been transmitted to a rising gen-

eration that know little of him but by "tradition of the elders." On the second Sunday of the present year, after long and weary illness, he appeared again in his place, and, with the rich intonations of that well-remembered voice, read a brief and appropriate discourse, which was accompanied by a pre-arranged order of services adapted to the occasion, and followed by an eloquent anniversary sermon by the junior pastor, Rev. C. A. Bartol. Mr. Bartol rightly deemed this epoch of commemoration a fit time to commence a series of biographical discourses on Dr. Lowell's predecessors; — Hooper, who, after being instrumental in gathering the church, sought refuge from the stern and sad theology of his day in the then less stringent creed and milder discipline of the English Establishment; Mayhew, the leading liberalist of his time, the strenuous, invincible champion of civil and religious freedom, in whose engraved portrait his laurel-wreathed pen surmounts an archiepiscopal mitre; and Howard, who witnessed the scattering of his congregation, and the conversion of his church into a barrack, became himself an exile, and on the return of peace gathered the remnant of his flock, and nourished them from weakness to a high standard of vigor and prosperity. These biographies, and other sermons and documents suggested by, and connected with, the anniversary that we have described, make up, with Dr. Lowell's address, the volume before us. Mr. Bartol's discourses display his wonted quaintness, beauty, and power of thought, imagery, and style. The biographical sermons are less memoirs than sketches of character. His subjects were rich, and he has done them ample justice. His sermon on Mayhew is especially noteworthy, as an adequate, whole-hearted, and noble tribute to the memory of a truly great man, and as a specimen, rarely equalled and almost never surpassed, of forceful, yet delicate and discriminating characterization. We earnestly hope that we may persuade him at some future time to be *pro hac vice* his own reviewer, and to give us such a paper as he only can write, on the worth and services of Mayhew as a Christian patriot.

13. — *The Roman Exile*. By GUGLIELMO GAJANI, Professor of Civil and Canon Law, and Representative of the People in the Roman Constituent Assembly, in the Year 1849. Boston: John P. Jewett & Co. 1856. 12mo. pp. 450.

THIS book suggests high hope for Italy. The author — a man of keen moral sense, and strong religious faith — represents himself as in these regards in full communion with "Young Italy"; and if this be